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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMODITY EXCHANGES,
ENERGY, AND CREDIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

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AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

July 17, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Case Number: DA15862

Dear Chairman Pai:

I wanted to provide an update from the Columbia County Board of Supervisors regarding the replacement of the Eger Communications Blue Hill replacement tower project. While the FCC continues to evaluate the Application for Review, the local governments, school districts, and first responders which rely on the tower for their communication needs have been active in their support for the project.

Most recently, the Columbia County Board of Supervisors unanimously passed Resolution No. 190-2018 to support the application of Eger Communications for a replacement tower project. The resolution, which passed on May 10, 2018, highlights the level of local support for this project. The Board of Supervisors notes that the communications systems dependent on the tower provide for the backbone of the emergency service infrastructure within western portion of Columbia County. The tower is necessary for the communication and dispatch capabilities of local fire companies, police departments, and rescue squads.

A certified copy of this resolution has been sent to the local, state, and federal officials which are reviewing the application of Eger Communications. I have also attached a copy to be sure the FCC is fully aware of the opinion of the local officials involved in this process.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

John J. Faso
Member of Congress

Enclosure

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721 BROADWAY
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cc:

Mark Eger - Eger Communications

Karl Eger - Eger Communications

Ralph Eger - Eger Communications

James Eger - Eger Communications

John M. Fowler - Executive Director, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

P.J. Keeler - EMS Coordinator, Columbia County Emergency Medical Services

Benjamin A. Wheeler - Chief, Lebanon Valley Protective Association

Richard Briggs - Chief, Hillsdale Fire Company No.1

Robert C. Lopez - Director Columbia County 911 Emergency Communications Department

Antonio Merante - Director, Greenport Rescue Squad

William Hunt - Columbia County Fire Coordinator

Paul Jahns - Chief, Livingston Fire District

Richard M. Lacouette - President NYCOMCO Wireless Communications

John W. Caffry - Caffry & Flower

Mark Browne - Vice President, Operations, NDP Emergency Medical Services

Craig E. Gilmore - Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP

Jacqueline Phillips Murray - The Murray Law Firm, PLLC

Brian Fontes – Chief Executive Officer, National Emergency Number Association

Stephen Traylor – Executive Director, National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors



Resolution
Board of Supervisors
County of Columbia
New York

Resolution No. 190-2018

Sponsored by Supervisor *Mayer*

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION OF EGER COMMUNICATIONS FOR A
TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER**

UPON, recommendation of the Public Safety Committee at a meeting held on the 18th day of April 2018, and of the Finance Committee, at a meeting held on the 26th day of April, 2018;

WHEREAS, the County of Columbia is currently leasing space on telecommunication towers owned by Eger Communications, in the Town of Livingston New York, along with a portion of an accessory building to serve the County's emergency communication needs; and

WHEREAS, Eger Communications had submitted an application to the Town of Livingston for the installation of a new tower which is to be located on the Eger Farm on Blue Hill in proximity to existing towers; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors submitted a letter dated May 27, 2008 in support of the Eger Communications application; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia County Board of Supervisors has been informed that there is a proceeding pending before the Federal Communications Commission that was submitted on August 26, 2015, and almost three years has elapsed since that application making it almost ten years since the initial Eger Communications application for the Tower.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Columbia County Board of Supervisors, as previously stated and submitted to local, state and federal agencies undertaking reviews of the Eger Communications request, needs to improve and upgrade an aged communications system that is imperative for our first responders; fire, police, and rescue squads, in order to communicate, dispatch, assist and prevent damages, injuries and death to the residents and visitors of Columbia County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Columbia County Board of Supervisors requests that the review and processing of the Eger Communications matter be expedited, and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of Columbia County 911 Service, the Chairman of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors, the Town of Livingston and the Columbia County Attorney, as well as local, state and federal officials undertaking a review of the Eger Communications.

Approved: _____

Robert J. Fitzsimmons, County Attorney

Resolution
Committee

[Signature]

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STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA} ss:

This is to certify that I, undersigned Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Columbia, have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution, now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Board of Supervisors on the 9th day of May 2018, and that the same is true and correct transcript of such original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Board of Supervisors this 10th day of May, 2018.


Kelly S. Baccaro, Clerk of the Board